

# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1847.

FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.—From a concurrence of circumstances several able pens have recently engaged in the discussion and rectification of facts connected with the early history of the United States. Prominent among these is the discussion to which M. DE LAMARTINE'S *History of the Girondists* has given rise, touching the true motives of the French Government, and the true character of some of the steps taken by it, in espousing the cause of the American Colonies in the War of Independence. Some weeks ago we inserted a forcible letter of Mr. SUMNER, of Boston, pointing out certain errors of M. DE LAMARTINE, which letter was followed in our paper, within the present month, by the able and more elaborate reply of an American gentleman resident in Paris, exposing what he conceived to be other and more important errors of the French historian. This latter reply has now drawn from an eminent historical writer of our country a short series of papers, the first of which will be found in our columns to-day. Without meaning to intimate any opinion on the merits of the points discussed, we think it proper to say that there is no man in the country better acquainted with American history, or better qualified by his studies, pursuits, abilities, and temperament, to ascertain and unveil the truth of History in whatever belongs to our Revolutionary era. We say this, to give to the papers of our correspondent their just weight, because, in a private note to us, he admits that the grounds he has taken are, in some important points, at variance with the general tenor of history; but that his facts are drawn from the most unquestionable sources; further, that he is satisfied there is no fact in history more demonstrable than the entire good faith of France towards the United States during the whole war of the Revolution, and that he is prepared to establish this point in all its details.

The subject may be a little antiquated, but it is one of much historical interest, and will be acceptable, we have no doubt, to all of our readers.

THE HISTORY OF "ANNEXATION."—We are likely at last to get at the true history of the "annexation" of Texas. Recent publications on the subject have had the effect to disturb the slumbering members of that controversy, which are not so quenched in the blood of the Mexican War but that light can yet be elicited from them. The Letter of ex-President TYLER, by which the question has been revived, has brought out a response from the other party to the contract whereby Texas was "annexed" to the United States, in the form of a Letter from the former President of Texas, which, as a part of the history of what we shall ever consider an unfortunate transaction, finds a ready place in our columns to-day.

In this Letter the reader who has kept pace with the march of events will find some important revelations.

We now know, from Gen. Houston, what it was found impossible to ascertain pending the discussion of the Treaty of Annexation, what were the stipulations given by the Executive of the United States to Texas through her Commissioners (in addition to those given through our Minister to Texas) before these Commissioners could, under their instructions, sign the Treaty; viz: that "in the event of a failure on the part of the Government of the United States to consummate annexation, after negotiations were once opened between the two Governments, she [the United States] should be bound to guarantee the independence of Texas, or enter into a treaty defensive against Mexico."

Another point now established by the Letter of Gen. Houston, and which we with other opponents were at the time roundly abused for even suspecting, is, that "there never was any intrigue connected with Texas and other [foreign] Powers; nor was there ever any foundation for such a charge, (though often reiterated,) only in the feverish excitement of heated fancy, or the mischievous designs of the wicked."

This Manifesto of Gen. Houston also proves (what we have always believed) that it was at the *Hermitage* that the question of "annexation" was adjudged and settled, so far at least as concerned the Texan interest in the matter. In reference to which point, by the way, it must be remarked, that Gen. Houston errs in supposing that "the People" of the United States took up and determined the question of "annexation." A majority of the People were undoubtedly opposed to the "annexation" of Texas when it took place. It is, nevertheless, we believe, strictly true, that, in the nearly equal division of the People between the two great political parties, the *Texan* interest, thrown into the scale, did ostracize those great men who ought to have been called to reside in this Government, and brought the present Administration into power. In Gen. Houston's expressive phrase, the Texas question "made and unmade the great men of America."

We do not know whether Mr. TYLER will think it necessary to make any rejoinder to Gen. H.'s Letter. If he do, we shall of course spread it before our readers.

"The National Intelligencer has gone yet further, in publishing, with much commendation, an article proposing that we should make full compensation to Mexico for her expenses in the war! It is useless to multiply proofs of the prevalence of the same spirit in the Whig journals all over the country."—*Union*.

This is a mistake, to say the least of it, which we have already once publicly contradicted. The statement which it contains never was true, and can acquire no truth by mere repetition.

The article to which the "Union," we suppose, has reference, contained no proposition in the terms above stated. To whatever it did propose, looking like it, we, though not called upon so to do, expressed dissent. What we much commended was the personal standing and the courage of the writer, and nothing more.

There is no such spirit prevalent in "the Whig journals all over the country" as would, under existing circumstances, sustain such a proposition as the above.

THE NEW JERSEY BATTALION will, it is said, be in readiness for the field in the course of a few days. It will consist of five companies of eighty men each.

## THE ORDINANCE OF 1787.

A discussion having arisen in the public prints as to the authorship of certain important provisions embraced in the Ordinance of 1787, for the government of the Western Territory, now constituting several States of the Union, and especially in regard to that celebrated provision which forever excluded slavery from that vast and fertile region, our fellow-townsmen, PETER FORCE, Esq., has prepared from authentic materials the article which appears on the preceding page. From this careful exposition it seems clear that Mr. WEBSTER was right when, in his celebrated speech on "Foot's Resolution," he ascribed the authorship (if not the original conception) of the clause above specified to NATHAN DANE, of Massachusetts.

It happens that, in seeking among the archives of all the old States, and among numerous private collections, for materials for his voluminous work, "American Archives," Mr. FORCE became possessed of the original projects and reports submitted to Congress respecting a plan of government for the Northwest Territory, from the first step in 1784 to 1787, when the Ordinance was finally adopted. He has the copy of the Ordinance of 1787, with all its alterations marked on it, while under consideration, as it was amended at the President's table, amongst which the clause respecting slavery remains attached to it, as an amendment, in Mr. DANE's handwriting, in the exact words in which it now stands in the Ordinance. From these materials, together with the official journals of the body, Mr. FORCE has compiled the narrative which we now insert; and his materials being thus authentic, we must receive it as settling the question. He has taken this trouble for the sake of historic truth; and the same motive, together with the intrinsic interest of the subject, and the further reason that we have given currency to versions of the transaction which do injustice to the dead, have induced us cheerfully to yield to it the large share of our space which it occupies.

## THE TENNESSEE ELECTION.

The government papers display an amusing ingenuity in finding causes for the defeat of their party in the late Tennessee election; but, by some singular obliquity, they all seem unable to hit on the right one, although to every body else it is very plain. The favorite apology is the apathy of the party and the impossibility of rousing them and getting them to the polls. The *Nashville Union* of the 16th accounts for its defeat as follows, and our official *Union* adopts with alacrity the consolatory explanation, viz:

"Three weeks before the election the Whigs were badly beaten. They now acknowledge this. But they have three weeks prior to the election in active and successful efforts to arouse their party, while the Democracy used no such exertions. We knew that the Whigs were doing this, and we used our best efforts to arouse our friends. But they could not be aroused from their state of blissful security, and a defeat is the result. They are now amazed at this defeat, and scarce a Democrat calls on us who does not tell of some twenty or thirty Democrats, within his own knowledge, who neglected to go to the polls, in the belief that it was 'all safe.'"

[*Nashville Union* of August 16th.]

This might answer very well, if it were not contradicted by the aforesaid *Nashville Union* itself. That paper, up to the day of the election, announced to its party the most cheering prospect, implying the greatest activity in the Democratic ranks. Witness its language the week previous to the election, as follows:

"If the Whigs turn out, Mr. Hall thinks they will elect NEIL S. BROWN. But they won't turn out, in the first place, because they don't want to vote their country wrong in this war; and if they were to turn out, and all vote for Neil, they won't strength enough by four thousand to elect him."

"Our estimate of the vote of the State is as follows: 'We shall gain in East Tennessee 650, in Middle Tennessee 1,500, in West Tennessee 2,000. Gov. Brown's old majority 1,500, making Gov. Brown's majority four thousand.'"

"This estimate is predicated upon a full Whig vote. But we are confident that hundreds and hundreds of Whigs will decline voting the anti-war ticket; and that our majority will be largely increased by this cause."

"We invite Whigs and Democrats to preserve the above, and by it to benefit their country on the day of the vote. We would not compromise this day on one vote less, and we hope for more."—*Nashville Union* of July 27th.

And again on the 3d instant, only two days before the election:

"THE GLORIOUS PROSPECT.—At no period of the present campaign, in which all has been so encouraging, and which has witnessed so brilliant a succession of Democratic triumphs, have the prospects of a Democratic victory on Thursday been as brilliant as at this moment. Gov. Brown himself has returned to this city in the finest health and spirits, and more than satisfied with his prospects. From the east, we hear by a gentleman amply qualified to judge, who has been through an entire season, that we will lose votes in no county there, while we will gain nearly all, and Brown's large gains in some. In our own division, we think we know that we will do from twelve hundred to fifteen hundred better than two years ago; while in the west we shall make a still larger proportionate gain."—*Nashville Union* of August 3d.

These statements cannot be reconciled, gentlemen; those who draw upon their imagination for their facts should have good memories. You had better admit frankly that you lost the election because your party has lost ground and the Whigs have gained it.

AN INCIDENT AT THE BATTLE OF MONTEREY.—While Col. DAVIS, with his command, was hotly engaged with the enemy, exposed to their direct fire, a man in a long gray surtout suddenly rode up, and, dismounting, placed himself in the middle of the street. There, in face of the enemy, amidst the thickest of their fire, he coolly drew from a case, suspended about his person, a spy-glass, with which, having adjusted it to a proper focus, he proceeded to reconnoitre the Mexican battery. Having satisfied himself as to the information he sought, he shut up the glass, returned it to its case, and, approaching Col. DAVIS, said to him: "Sir, the enemy has but two pieces, and by making a detour to the right you can take them in flank." "And who the devil are you?" "I, sir, am Major MANSFIELD, of the Corps of Engineers." "All right! come on boys!" responded the Colonel. The battery was soon carried.

The Whigs of Philadelphia tendered to Mr. CLAY a public dinner, which he declined, remarking that "it would be entirely incompatible with the state of his feelings, and the private motives which on this occasion brought him from home, to accept the compliment of a public dinner."

CONTRACT OF JURISDICTION.—It seems that it is not yet settled whether Texas beyond the Nueces is Texas or not. The United States Quartermaster there (Mr. EASTMAN) insists upon the United States military law jurisdiction, and the Texas self-constituted authorities there insist upon having their own jurisdiction. In this conflict of claims there have been serious difficulties, as we see by a correspondence in the *New Orleans Bee*.

The Quartermaster has razed to the ground the houses of five fishermen, and banished them from Point Isabel, whose only guilt, it is said, was their procuring fire arms. He imprisoned another man for being drunk, and then sent him, says the writer, "from his own native State to New Spain." Finally, the Quartermaster sent the Deputy Sheriff of Point Isabel, and his two Assistants, to Vera Cruz, for enforcing their own Texas law, we presume.

The Novelty Iron Works, in New York, were partially destroyed by fire on Monday evening. Loss \$10,000; insurance \$8,000.

## THE GOVERNMENT WRITERS.

After exhausting the irritability excited by their late defeat before the People by every sort of vituperation of the Whigs, who can well afford to refrain from retorting their abuse or replying to their extravagancies, the writers for the government paper have betaken themselves to an elaborate defence of the doctrine of Prerogative powers, unknown to the Constitution, under color of which the President has assumed to exercise Legislative powers such as even the Congress of the United States does not possess.

The special pleading of the article on this subject in the "Union" of last Saturday night betrays the professional advocate. It is technical, laborious, and strained.

Our present engagements do not allow us time to sift his argument as thoroughly as possibly we may hereafter take occasion to do. All we shall say, at present, is, that what is law in Monarchical Governments is not law in a Republic, except so far as it is embodied in the Constitution of that Republic; and that all attributions of substantive power to the President by analogy from other Governments has been denounced by the highest judicial tribunals of this country as false and heretical doctrine.

The quotations by which the government writer undertakes to maintain a contrary doctrine are absolutely contradicted by parallel passages in the very authorities from which he quotes, and especially in "The Federalist" and the Letters of "Helvidius" (by Mr. MADISON.) To his argument of many columns it is sufficient for us to reproduce, by way of reply, what we had occasion to advance, some months ago in a condensed form, against the pretensions set up for the President in his character of Commander-in-Chief of the Army and the Navy; which we defy the united ingenuity of all the lawyers composing the Administration to confute.

We take it from the National Intelligencer of the 22d of April last, as follows:

"The President is, it is true, by virtue of his office, 'Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States.' But he is to command the Army, &c. constitutionally and not prerogatively, and in that distinction lies the difference between ourselves and our Baltimore neighbor. With a reasonable confidence in our own knowledge of the Constitution under which we live, we are yet comforted wonderfully when we find, in differing from our friends, that we are sustained by the framers of the Constitution themselves.

"The feature of the Constitution which encountered the strongest objection on the part of the Anti-Federalists, was that which regarded the very power proposed to be conferred on the President as Commander-in-Chief, &c. (as it now stands in the Constitution.) On this head, PATRICK HENRY said, in the Convention of Virginia, among other things:

"This Constitution has an awful squinting: it squints 'towards monarchy; and does not this raise indignation in the breast of every American.' " "If we make a King, we may prescribe the rules by which he shall rule his people, and interpose such checks as shall prevent him from infringing them; but the President in the field at the head of his army can prescribe the terms on which he shall reign 'master,' &c."

"It was in answer to objections of this character, industriously disseminated among the People, to that part of the Constitution which proposed to make the President Commander-in-Chief, &c. that the patriotic founders of the Constitution the authors of 'The Federalist,' gave in No. 69 the following authentic and true interpretation of that provision:

"The President is to be Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. In this respect his authority would be nominally the same with that of the King of Great Britain, but in substance much inferior to it. It would amount to nothing more than the supreme command and direction of the military and naval forces as first General and Admiral of the Confederacy; whilst that of the British King extends to the declaring of war, and to the raising and regulating of fleets and armies; all which, by the Constitution under consideration, would appertain to the Legislature."

"The power of regulation here referred to—the power, in the terms of the Constitution, 'to make RULES CONCERNING CAPTIVES on land and water,' thus conferred upon Congress, and refused to the President, is the identical power which the President has undertaken to exercise, and which to bring in question is, according to the Executive and its organ, nothing less than treason!

"If it be necessary further to fortify our construction by authority contemporary with the Constitution, (or nearly so,) we are proud to be able to cite that of the illustrious MADISON, from the Letters of Helvidius, (A. D. 1793,) in the following conclusive passage:

"Were it once established that the powers of war and treaty are in their nature executive; that so far as they are not by strict construction transferred to the Legislature, they actually belong to the Executive; that of course all powers not less executive in their nature than those powers, if granted to the Legislature, may be claimed by the Executive; if granted, are to be taken strictly, with a residuary right in the Executive—or, as will appear hereafter, perhaps claimed as a concurrent right by the Executive—no citizen could any longer guess at the character of the Government under which he lives; THE MOST EXTREMELY JUST WOULD BE UNABLE TO SCAN THE EXTENT OF CONSTRUCTIVE PREROGATIVE."

"And again, in the next page, in the following (as it seems to us) unanswerable argument:

"If the right to declare war be an exception out of the general grant to the Executive power, every thing executed in the right must be included in the exception; and, being included in the exception, is excluded from THE GRANT."

We have read with sincere regret the following account of the death of one of the most honorable and amiable gentlemen that we have happened to meet with in the walks of public life:

FROM THE PITTSBURGH AMERICAN OF AUGUST 18.

DEED, on board the steamer *Old Hickory*, on its way up the Mississippi, the Hon. THOMAS BUTLER, aged 64. He was the son of Col. Thomas Butler, one of that military family so famous in the early history of the country.

Judge BUTLER was an eminent planter, a resident of West Feliciana, Louisiana, and was at one time one of the Representatives from that State in Congress. He was a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, but was brought up and went to school in Pittsburg. He emigrated at an early period to the Southwest, where his character and standing did honor to his native State.

EFFECTS OF THE TARIFF OF 1846.

The Boston Iron Company have closed a contract for 50,000 tons of Nova Scotia Coal, to be delivered this fall and winter.

The Journal of Commerce says: "That £150,000 of sterling bills have been returned by this packet (the *Cambria*) protested. We do not find that any bills drawn in New York have been returned. Some bills drawn in Canada have come back, though we should think not by any means to the amount named. None of the failures mentioned affect this city."

## CINCINNATI AND ST. LOUIS RAILROAD.

A meeting of the citizens of Richmond, Indiana, and its vicinity, was held on the 14th instant, to take into consideration the highly important subject of connecting St. Louis and Cincinnati by railroad. Judge HUNTINGTON, a delegate from the Board of Directors of the Terra Haute and Richmond Railroad Company, who has been appointed to visit different points on the route, was present, and gave a highly interesting account of his visit to Cincinnati, and of the action of the Board in advancing the interests of the road.

Considerable interest was manifested, and after the appointment of a committee to prepare a series of resolutions expressive of the wishes of the people relative to this great work, the meeting adjourned to the 18th instant, at which time the committee were requested to report. At the second meeting the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and \$7,000 were subscribed prior to the opening of the books.

Judge HUNTINGTON subsequently visited Indianapolis, and like enthusiasm prevailed. Indeed, along the entire route the most energetic movements are being made. These things (remarks the Cincinnati Gazette) augur well for the future rapid progress of the work, the completion of which will so materially advance the interest of the entire West.

TENNESSEE.—The Legislature just elected in Tennessee stands as follows, giving the Whigs a majority of each House, and a majority of eight on joint ballot. A United States Senator is to be elected by this Legislature to fill the seat lately occupied by Mr. JARNAGIN, whose term of service expired with the last Congress:

	Whigs.	Democrats.
Senate.....	13.	12.
House.....	41.	34.
	54.	46.

IOWA.—The three vacancies in the Iowa Legislature, according to a correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, have been filled by the election of one Whig and two Locofocos—before. If this plan be true, it is still doubtful which party will have the United States Senators. "The Journal" questions the accuracy of its correspondent, and thinks that the Democrats have gained one member, just enough to reverse the state of parties in the House, by giving them twenty members and leaving the Whigs but nineteen.

ALABAMA.—The majority for REUBEN CHAPMAN, the Democratic candidate for Governor of Alabama, will be between six and seven thousand votes. Mr. POLK's majority in 1844 was nearly twelve thousand.

In the Legislature the Democrats will have a majority of two or three in the Senate, and upwards of twenty in the House of Representatives.

Two United States Senators are to be chosen: one to succeed Mr. LEWIS, whose term expired on the 4th of March last, and the other to succeed Mr. BAGBY, whose term will expire on the 4th of March, 1849. The latter election is to be made by this new Legislature because the sessions in Alabama are biennial.

MISSISSIPPI SENATOR.—It is now positively announced that Gov. BROWN, of Mississippi, has appointed Col. JEFFERSON DAVIS a Senator of the United States, in the place of the late Mr. SWEIGHT. The Jackson "Southron" says that the commission was issued on the 10th instant. The official term of Col. DAVIS, under this appointment, will continue only until the election of a Senator by the Legislature, which will meet in January next.

We are gratified to learn that JOHN G. CHAPMAN, Esq., was, on Tuesday last, unanimously nominated for re-election to Congress by the Whig Convention of the first district of Maryland. No one in the last Congress enjoyed the respect and affection of his fellow-members in a higher degree than Gen. Chapman, and we congratulate the Whigs of his district in their choice of one who will represent them so faithfully and efficiently.—*Al. Gaz.*

The mortality among the emigrants at Quebec and Montreal is truly appalling. It seems to be on the increase instead of diminishing. The deaths at Grosse Isle on the 13th, up to 10 o'clock A.M. were 81; inmates of the hospitals 2,200. At Charles Point hospital, near Montreal, on the 16th, deaths 32; number of sick 1,237.

NO MORE TERRITORY.—The Richmond Whig concludes an earnest article upon the subject of the Wilmot Proviso, and the danger it threatens to the stability of the Union, with this admonition:

"It is for every lover of the Union—for every friend of his country—for every true born American, to resist the introduction of more territory into the Union. Let him make up his mind to stand by the Union, and to submit to receive no gift which will bring its continuance into danger. Like the Trojan horse, this fatal gift of Mexican territory is fraught with danger and death; like the unwary Trojans, let us not break down the walls and admit it into the citadel. Let us repel it, and those who offer it to us. Then and then only can we be safe; then and then only will we have done our duty to the Union, to ourselves, and to mankind in general, whose hopes are wrapped up in the success of our great experiment."

THE GILDED LANTERN AND LOFTY MAST were raised to their intended position above the dome of the Capitol yesterday afternoon about four o'clock. The mast was first seen projecting upwards about two o'clock, and in two hours its lower extremity was safely placed in its socket. We had the pleasure of witnessing in part the elevation of this lofty and beautiful mast; and to our apprehension the work was accomplished handsomely, under the direction of Mr. CATTELL, Captain EASY with a number of his skillful and hardy shipwrights assisting in the operation. The gilded lantern presents a very splendid appearance in the rays of the sun. It is gratifying to learn that the mast was raised without accident of any kind or personal injury to any of the workmen. We rejoice at this the more, as many persons predicted that the lofty pole could not be raised to its present position; and that it was very likely some of the hands would be killed or maimed in the attempt to raise it.

NAVAL.—The schooner *Taney*, lying at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, was placed in commission on Tuesday morning. Lieut. HUNTER commander. The *Taney* sails in a few days for the Mediterranean.

DINNER TO CON. DE KAT.—Following the example in the case of the dinner to Capt. FORBES, of the Jamestown, upon his arrival at Cork, and at the expense of being considered somewhat out of taste in their demonstrations, the generous and grateful people of Cork entertained CON. DE KAT, of the Macedonian, with a splendid dinner on board the steamer Royal Alice, in the Cove of Cork, on the 26th of July. The town authorities of Cork were present, together with a large number of citizens, ladies and gentlemen. Father TAYLOR, of Boston, (the famous preacher to the sailors,) and Father MATHEW were guests of the occasion. A number of speeches were made, and national and royal salutes were fired by the Macedonian and the British ship *Oriscany* lying in the harbor.

Mr. VATTENARE, the French gentleman who is so enthusiastically engaged in endeavoring to establish a system of international exchanges of valuable books, &c. has transmitted to the city of Boston a collection of rare and valuable works, the gift of the city of Paris. They were presented on Tuesday, accompanied by a very handsome letter from Mr. V.

The party who were detailed from Col. DONIFAN's regiment to start from Canagoga to St. Louis, by a land route, to take in charge the horses, mules, &c. belonging to the regiment, arrived in St. Louis on the 18th instant. They accomplished the trip of seventeen hundred miles in about six weeks. They arrived with about one hundred mules, being but about one half of the stock they started with. The horses almost all failed to stand the journey, and died, or were left almost in exhaustion.

## PUBLIC HONORS TO MR. CLAY.

A large delegation from New York proceeded to Cape May on Friday last, to invite Mr. CLAY to visit New York. On arriving at the Cape, NICHOLAS DEAN, Esq., addressed Mr. CLAY. The Address and Reply are subjoined:

### THE INVITATION.

Through the unexpected kindness of friends, I am the honored instrument of expressing to you, sir, briefly, sentiments which are common to us all.

You are surrounded by a few of your fellow-citizens from the city of New York—not the result of political association, but the offspring of party organizations who had individually learned from the public press that you were sojourning in their vicinity, and who, by one simultaneous impulse, thrust themselves on board a swarm of communication, and hastened here to grasp you by the hand, and offer to you the homage of their warm salutations. [Cheers and other manifestations of applause.]

But, sir, we have another and more important duty to perform; we come in the name of four hundred thousand persons to ask you once again to visit our metropolis—once again to permit us, within the circle of our own corporate limits, to express to you our deep appreciation of the eminent services which you, through a long series of years, have rendered, not to us only, but to our whole country, [cheers of applause]—and to furnish us the opportunity of expressing to you our undiminished confidence in you, sir, to announce to our friends, with the speed of lightning, the homage of their warm salutations. [Cheers and other manifestations of applause.]

These, sir, are no ordinary sentiments, nor are they felt in any ordinary degree. They are the warm and hearty expressions of a generous and grateful spirit. Suffer them not to be chilled by deflection of party organizations, but let them present themselves to you as the spontaneous expression of the people to their friends, with the speed of lightning, the homage of their warm salutations. [Cheers and other manifestations of applause.]

A hundred thousand tongues are waiting to spread the glad intelligence, and the great aggregate heart of our entire city is throbbing with gladness to welcome you, sir, to its bosom. [Cheers and other manifestations of applause.]

During the delivery of the speech Mr. C. evinced much feeling, and at its conclusion replied as follows:

### MR. CLAY'S REPLY.

Gentlemen of the Committee from New York—Gentlemen of the Committee from Trenton—Gentlemen of the Committee from New Haven—Gentlemen of the Committee from Philadelphia, (for there are committees present from all these places)—Fellow-citizens!—I am deeply indebted to you for the honor which you have conferred upon me by your presence here, and for the adoption of the language which was used on a more solemn occasion, "Thou almost persuadest me" to go. [Great applause.] But, in all that uprightness of nature which I have ever endeavored to practice, I must tell you the objects and motives which have brought me to the shores of the Atlantic. I returned to my residence, after passing the winter at New Orleans, on the 23d or 24th of March last, and in a day or two afterwards melancholy intelligence reached me. [Here Mr. C. evinced great emotion.] I have been nervous ever since, and was induced to take this journey, for I could not look upon the partner of my sorrows without experiencing deeper anguish. [The speaker was here overcome by his feelings, and paused some minutes, covering his face with his hands; at length, recollecting himself, he resumed.] Every thing about Ashland was associated with the memory of the last one. The very trees which his hands had assisted me to plant served to remind me of my loss. Had the stroke come alone I could have borne it, with his assistance, and sustained by the kindness of my friends and fellow-citizens, with meekness and resignation; but of eleven children four only remain—[emotion]—of six lovely and affectionate daughters not one is left. [Deep emotion.] Finding myself in the midst of sadness, I thought I would fly to the mountains' top, and descend to the ocean's wave, and, by meeting with the sympathy of friends, obtain some relief for the sadness which surrounded me. I came for private purposes, and from private motives alone. I have not sought these public manifestations, nor have I desired to escape them. My friend and travelling companion, Doctor J. H. Brown, told you that in his opinion every section of the State of my birth—I have been in the habit of remaining, if only for a few hours, to exchange congratulations with my friends, but I invariably refused, and only remained in each place sufficiently long to exchange one vehicle for another. You may imagine that I made a visit to Philadelphia—but I was accidentally thrown into Philadelphia. [When I arrived in Baltimore, I learned that the most direct route to this place was by the Delaware. I had no public object in view. Indifferent I am not, nor can I be, to the honor, welfare, and glory of my country. [Cheers.]

Gentlemen of the Committee of New York, I have truly and sincerely disclosed the purpose of my journey; but I cannot but deeply feel this manifestation of your respect and regard. It is received with thankfulness, and reaches the warmest feelings of my heart—[a private and humble citizen, without an army, without a navy, without even a constable's staff, should have been met at every step of my progress with the kindest manifestations of feeling—manifestations of which at present a monarch or an emperor might well be proud. [Tremendous applause.] No, I am not insensible to these tokens of public affection and regard. I am thankful for them all. [Cheers.] To you, gentlemen of the committee of New York, who, on behalf of four hundred thousand individuals whom you represent, have taken so much trouble, I am deeply thankful for this manifestation of your regard, but I must reluctantly decline the honor of your invitation. To the citizens of Trenton, New Haven, and Philadelphia, I must beg [here Mr. C. addressed the committees from the other places] of you to excuse me. I trust, if you will, that you will do so, for I do not place myself on the affections of my countrymen whether I do and where I do. On the wide ocean, without a compass, and without a guide. [Very great applause.]

I must beg of you, gentlemen of all these committees, to retract your steps, charged and surcharged with my warmest feelings of gratitude. Go back, charged with warm thanks from me, and tell my friends that nothing but the circumstances in which I am placed—nothing (for we may as well mingle a laugh with our tears, and borrow the words of the Irish ambassador, "situated as I am, and I may say circumscribed as I am")—prevents the effort of meeting you. [Laughter.] Tell them—and I hope this response will be considered as a specific answer to each of the committees, (for if you could see how my time is occupied here you would know it is impossible for me to write it,)—that you are charged with the expression of the best feelings of my heart. And you, gentlemen of New York, be assured that it will be long before this evidence of your regard will be forgotten. Among the recollections of the incidents of this journey, this visit will be paramount, and the circumstances which led to it. I wish you an agreeable voyage on your return, and make apologies for being constrained to decline your kind invitation.

Mr. Clay then sat down amidst the most vociferous and long-continued cheering. Throughout the whole reply of Mr. Clay he was deeply and powerfully affected, and it was with a giant effort that he succeeded in gilding his closing remark with something of the old humor and imparting a smile to his countenance.

We learn from the Philadelphia American that about 11 o'clock on Monday Mr. CLAY left Cape Island on board the steamer *Ohio*, accompanied by an immense number of visitors from the island, who had been attracted thither by his presence.

"As the Ohio drew nigh the wharf at Newcastle the Philadelphians, through their committee, who had attended Mr. Clay to the island, took leave of him. Their farewell was pronounced by Mr. McMICHAEL, and was responded to by the distinguished patriot in terms of eloquence and pathos which cannot be described. Deep emotion was displayed on every countenance, and many a tear fell from eyes heretofore unused to the melting mood.

"An immense concourse of people, estimated at three or four thousand, were in attendance on the wharf at Newcastle to receive Mr. Clay. Among them our informant noticed Mr. CLAYTON, the Chancellor and Chief Justice, and other eminent dignitaries and citizens of Delaware. The boat shot away from the wharf to rapidly to enable our Philadelphia friends to witness the reception of the expected guest; but it did not need the shouts rising above the dash of the paddles and the rattle of machinery, the waving of hats and handkerchiefs, and the rush of the multitude, to speak the character of a welcome. They knew that in leaving Mr. Clay in Delaware they left him among the most constant and most faithful of his friends.

"We learn that Mr. CLAY was to spend the night with Chancellor JOHNS; and that he proceeds this morning to Buena Vista, to pass a single day with Mr. CLAYTON. His next movement will be towards Baltimore, whence he resumes his homeward route to Kentucky. May his return be happy."

Mr. CLAY reached Baltimore between 11 and 12 o'clock on Tuesday night, in the steamboat from Frenchtown; and, notwithstanding the lateness of the hour and the short notice of his coming, the American says:

"His reception was one of the most enthusiastic we have ever witnessed. Without any previous arrangement, and with the fact of there being a possibility that he might come on in the boat, a dense crowd of the admirers of the great Statesman of the West lined the capacious wharf at the foot of South street long before the boat was in sight; and when she did make her appearance, and it was ascertained that the man who has so strong a hold on the affections of the great Whig party was on board, an enthusiastic shout of welcome burst forth from the vast multitude, rockets were thrown up, and every one seemed to seek a glimpse of the great man. Mr. CLAY proceeded at once to Barnum's City Hotel, escorted by a concourse of warm friends as it has ever been the lot of an American statesman to boast of. Upon his arrival at the Hotel the multitude assembled around the building, and seemed unwilling to depart until he should again appear before them."

FROM THE PITTSBURGH AMERICAN OF AUGUST 18.

DEED, on board the steamer *Old Hickory*, on its way up the Mississippi, the Hon. THOMAS BUTLER, aged 64. He was the son of Col. Thomas Butler, one of that military family so famous in the early history of the country.

Judge BUTLER was an eminent planter, a resident of West Feliciana, Louisiana, and was at one time one of the Representatives from that State in Congress. He was a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, but was brought up and went to school in Pittsburg. He emigrated at an early period to the Southwest, where his character and standing did honor to his native State.

before them. Mr. CLAY at length appeared, and after adverting to the lateness of the hour—which precluded the possibility of a speech—he thanked them for the warm and gratifying reception which he had received, and, wishing them an affectionate good night, retired amid the best wishes of the assembled multitude for his welfare and prosperity."

Mr. CLAY left Baltimore yesterday morning for his home in Kentucky.